

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

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COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIEP-02 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /139 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6420

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, PFOR, ENRG

SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS APPLAUDS SECRETARY'S SPEECH

1. SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO PILGRIMS SOCIETY LAST NIGHT
RECEIVED PROMINENT FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE AND FAVORABLE
EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM ALL MAJOR LONDON NEWSPAPERS
THIS MORNING.

2. MOST OF THEM HIGHLIGHTED THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL
FOR JOINT ACTION GROUP TO OVERCOME ENERGY CRISIS, AND
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ALL OF THEM INCLUDED IN THEIR REPORTING HIS UNHAPPINESS

WITH EC FAILURE TO CONSULT ADEQUATELY WITH US AND HIS APPEAL FOR RESTORATION OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE TO THE ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP. TIMES CITED SECRETARY'S "VERY CONSTRUCTIVE" TALKS WITH BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY YESTERDAY MORNING AS EVIDENCE OF IMPROVED CONSULTATION.

3. EDITORIALY, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH CHARACTERIZED THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL FOR JOINT ENERGY ACTION GROUP AS "AN HISTORIC OFFER -- BOTH GENEROUS AND COURAGEOUS," AND CALLED ON HMG "TO SIGNIFY ITS ACCEPTANCE AND PLEDGE ITS FULL COOPERATION." IN A SIMILAR VEIN, FINANCIAL TIMES SAID SECRETARY'S "IMAGINATIVE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ... WITH EAGER SYMPATHY."

4. UNDER CAPTION "MAKING FRIENDS ONCE AGAIN," GUARDIAN EDITORIAL PRAISED SECRETARY'S SPEECH AS AN EFFORT "TO HEAL THE WOUNDS AND ALLAY THE DOUBTS" PRODUCED WITHIN NATO BY MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. EDITORIAL WENT ON TO ARGUE THAT ENORMOUS GROWTH IN SOVIET NAVAL POWER MEANS US NEEDS EUROPEAN ALLIES MORE THAN EVER, AND CONCLUDED BY ENDORSING SIR ALEC'S STATEMENT THAT EUROPE DOES NOT WANT TO BE A THIRD FORCE BUT IS RATHER A SECOND FORCE ON SIDE OF US.

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